

April 20, 1950.

Miss Elise Cahn,  
108-26 65th Ave.,  
Forest Hills, N.Y.

Dear Miss Cahn:

Thank you for sending the photograph, which will be satisfactory for your application. I presume that it is required only for identification purposes.

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I am very sorry that I ~~must~~/not make myself clearer in my earlier letter. There is no question as to your admissibility as a regular graduate student. The only difficulties that I had in mind concerned the finding of a place for you to pursue your graduate study. The proposals which Dr. Crow and I are hurriedly formulating (and out of order) were intended as a stopgap for the next year. We are not yet certain what the space situation will be like in 1951-52, although some relief from our crowded situation is anticipated. For this reason, we did not wish to commit ourselves concerning the reservation of appropriate laboratory facilities at this time. If your performance, as compared with the prospects of other applicants for fellowships [and research space], is sufficiently impressive, we should be able to squeeze you in somewhere under any circumstances. In any event, you would be a regularly matriculated student at the University, and at worst, the difficulty would be in finding an appropriate place here to work.

My letter seems to have been especially confusing with respect to the meaning of "research support". Although there may be theoretical distinctions, we have been fortunate enough at Wisconsin so that, ordinarily, a meritorious project can find support both for an assistantship and for research supplies, provided that space can be found. In practice, therefore, these items go together.

The situation with respect to the assistantship is still unsettled. In any event, the Department will wish to see your supporting letters before it will endorse any action. I will, of course, inform you promptly when any conclusion is reached.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Assistant Professor of Genetics